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Security Council

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S/PRST/1994/57
30 September 1994

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3433rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 30 September 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council is deeply concerned at the deteriorating security situation in the safe area of Sarajevo and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which has included increased levels of armed violence, deliberate attacks on UNPROFOR troops and on humanitarian flights, severe restrictions on public utilities, and continued restriction on the flow of transport and communications. It notes that normal life has not been fully restored to Sarajevo, as called for in its resolution 900 (1994).

"The Security Council expresses concern at the deliberate interruptions of utilities and communications to the civilian population in Sarajevo, as well as the extended period of closure of Sarajevo airport to humanitarian flights and the route across that airport opened in cooperation with UNPROFOR following the agreement of 17 March 1994, as a result of the actions by the Bosnian Serb party. The Council calls upon the Bosnian Serb party not to interfere with the normal functioning of Sarajevo airport. It further calls upon the Bosnian Serb party to cooperate with efforts to fully restore the flow of gas and electricity to Sarajevo, to reopen all land routes to Sarajevo and, now and in the future, to refrain from impeding the normal operations of these and all other utilities, and means of communication and transport. It calls upon all parties not to interfere with the supply of gas or electricity to the civilian population. It reiterates its call to all parties, with the assistance of the United Nations, to achieve complete freedom of movement for the civilian population and for humanitarian goods to, from and within Sarajevo, to remove any hindrance to such freedom of movement, and to help restore normal life to the city.

"It condemns in particular the deliberate attack on 22 September 1994 on UNPROFOR troops in Sarajevo, just one of a number of attacks which clearly suggest a deliberate pattern. The Council also notes with alarm, and condemns without reservation, the reported statements of the Bosnian Serb leadership that the Bosnian Serb party would target UNPROFOR

activities in retaliation for the passage of a Council resolution tightening sanctions against the Bosnian Serbs. It warns the Bosnian Serb leadership against any retaliatory action, whether against UNPROFOR or any other party, and, in that context, welcomes efforts to support UNPROFOR troops.

"The Council fully supports UNPROFOR's efforts to assure compliance with measures designed by the international community to improve conditions in Sarajevo. It advises both parties, and in particular the Bosnian Serbs, to comply with those measures.

"The Council strongly condemns any provocative actions in Sarajevo and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina by whomsoever committed and demands immediate cessation of such actions.

"The Council encourages the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNPROFOR to explore as a matter of priority proposals for the demilitarization of Sarajevo.

"The Council affirms its determination to remain seized of the matter."

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3435th meeting of the Security Council, held on 8 October 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council notes with grave concern the statement issued on 6 October 1994 by the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq. It underlines the complete unacceptability of the implication therein that Iraq may withdraw cooperation from the United Nations Special Commission. The Security Council emphasizes the necessity of full implementation of all its relevant resolutions, including full cooperation by Iraq, without interference, with the United Nations Special Commission's vital mission.

"The Security Council has also received with grave concern reports that substantial numbers of Iraqi troops, including units of the Iraqi Republican Guard, are being redeployed in the direction of the border with Kuwait.

"The Security Council therefore requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) redoubles its vigilance and reports immediately any violation of the demilitarized zone established under resolution 687 (1991) or any potentially hostile action.

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait. It underlines Iraq's full responsibility to accept all the obligations contained in all its relevant resolutions and to comply fully therewith."

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3436th meeting of the Security Council, held on 14 October 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning Rwanda", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the Secretary-General's progress report on the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) (S/1994/1133). The Council stresses the importance it attaches to the role of UNAMIR, whose neutral and independent presence is crucial to creating conditions of security. It welcomes the Secretary-General's revised deployment schedule for UNAMIR which is intended to promote security in all sectors of the country and create conditions conducive to the return of refugees. It also welcomes the assistance being provided by UNAMIR to the Government of Rwanda's efforts to establish a new integrated police force. It encourages UNAMIR to continue that assistance and asks the Secretary-General to provide it with detailed information on this programme.

"The Security Council remains extremely concerned at the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons in Rwanda and the countries of the region. It reiterates its view that their return to their homes is essential for the normalization of the situation in Rwanda and for the stabilization of the region. It deplores the continuing acts of intimidation and violence within the refugee camps which are designed to prevent the refugee population there from returning home. It welcomes the commitment of the Governments of Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi to help resolve the problems facing the refugees, and calls upon them to do all in their power to ensure the safety both of the refugees and of the international personnel providing humanitarian assistance to the refugees.

"The Security Council notes the view expressed in the report that the most effective way of ensuring the safety of the refugees and their freedom to return to Rwanda would be the separation of political leaders, former RGF soldiers and militias from the rest of the refugee population, and looks forward to receiving a further report from the Secretary-General on this issue, as soon as possible, based inter alia on the findings of the United Nations team participating in the joint Zairian/United Nations

working group. It stresses once again the responsibilities which fall upon the neighbouring countries, including that of ensuring that their territories are not used to destabilize the situation.

"The return of refugees is also crucially dependent upon the situation within Rwanda itself, including the existence of a climate of confidence and the establishment of a more secure environment. The Security Council notes the important role human rights monitors and their speedy deployment will have in this context and notes also the importance of cooperation between them and UNAMIR. The Security Council stresses the importance it attaches to UNAMIR having an effective broadcasting service to provide objective information. It hopes that the Government of Rwanda will assist in enabling the proposed United Nations radio station to come into operation as soon as possible.

"The Security Council welcomes the efforts being made by the Rwandan Government to facilitate the return of refugees and to begin the difficult process of national reconciliation and reconstruction in the country. It notes with concern reports that some reprisals may have occurred and affirms the importance it attaches to the avoidance of reprisals against returnees and to the safeguarding of their property rights. It welcomes the speed with which the United Nations and the Government of Rwanda responded to allegations that some RPA soldiers might have been responsible for systematic killings. It underlines the importance it attaches to the thorough and expeditious investigation of these allegations.

"The Security Council welcomes the assurance given to Council members by President Bizimungu of his Government's commitment to achieving national reconciliation and promoting respect for the fundamental rights of individuals. The Security Council stresses the importance it attaches to the Government of Rwanda implementing this commitment. In this context it endorses the Secretary-General's call to the Government of Rwanda to maintain an open dialogue with all political interest groups in Rwanda in an effort to achieve genuine reconciliation between all elements of Rwandan society, within the frame of reference of the Arusha Peace Agreement. In particular, the Security Council encourages the Rwandan Government to continue its efforts to invite members of the MRND who were not involved in the massacres to participate in the Government and to absorb members of the former RGF into the new army.

"The Security Council reaffirms its view that those responsible for serious breaches of international humanitarian law and acts of genocide must be brought to justice. It stresses that persons involved in such acts cannot achieve immunity from prosecution by fleeing the country and notes that the provisions of the Convention relating to the status of refugees do not apply to such persons. In this context, the Council is currently considering the recommendations of the Commission of Experts in respect of the establishment of an international tribunal and will act expeditiously in the matter.

"The Security Council commends the assistance given by the international community, the United Nations agencies and non-governmental

organizations in response to the crisis in Rwanda. It calls on them to maintain their support during the difficult transition period and to begin to redirect their support from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction. It endorses the Secretary-General's views as to the importance of immediate and coordinated assistance, in particular to the restoration of civil administration and the reconstruction of the social and economic infrastructure of the country.

"The Security Council agrees with the Secretary-General that developments in Rwanda strengthen the case for a broader approach to the question of national reconciliation and other key aspects of the crisis. It encourages him to continue his consultations on how the United Nations can assist in the preparation and convening of an international conference to look into the problems of the subregion.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

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21 October 1994

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3441st meeting of the Security council, held on 21 October 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Burundi", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the situation in Burundi, on the basis of the Secretary-General's report (S/1994/1152). It recalls its earlier statements on this subject, most recently that made by the President of the Council on 25 August 1994 (S/PRST/1994/47). It warmly welcomes the election and swearing in of the President, the confirmation in office of the Prime Minister, and the formation of the new coalition Government. It believes that this represents an important step forward in the stabilization of the situation in Burundi. It calls upon all parties in Burundi to cooperate in the work of re-establishing democracy and stability.

"The Security Council remains concerned that, despite the important political progress that has been made, much remains to be done if the climate of insecurity described by the Secretary-General in his report is to be dispelled and the country set firmly on the path of reconciliation and reconstruction. The Council deplores the fact that extremist elements continue to threaten national reconciliation, including through the operation of a clandestine radio station inciting ethnic hatred and violence. It reaffirms the importance of bringing to justice those responsible for the coup of 21 October 1993 and subsequent inter-ethnic massacres and other violations of international humanitarian law. In this regard, it also encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his suggestion that United Nations assistance be provided to the Government of Burundi in strengthening its judicial system.

"The Security Council commends the role played by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, including in helping the new coalition Government to organize a national debate early in 1995 on the problems of relations between the two communities. The Council attaches importance to the success of this initiative. In this regard, it welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to strengthen the office of the Special Representative.

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"The Security Council believes the international community must continue to give priority to the restoration of stability and the promotion of national reconciliation in Burundi. In this context, it recognizes the work of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the office he has established in Burundi, and notes the important role human rights monitors might play. It welcomes the recent increase in the number of Organization of African Unity (OAU) military observers in Burundi. It encourages the OAU, United Nations agencies and Member States to continue their involvement in Burundi and to intensify political contacts and visits. It notes the importance of increased technical assistance from the international community as the coalition Government tackles the critical tasks of reconciliation and reconstruction.

"The Council remains deeply concerned at the plight of refugees and displaced persons in Burundi. It commends the continuing efforts of the High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian bodies to address this problem. It welcomes the Secretary-General's sending of a Special Envoy to study the refugee crisis from a regional perspective and looks forward to any recommendations that the Secretary-General may have as a result of that initiative.

"The Council calls on the authorities and all parties in Burundi to ensure the safety and security of all personnel involved in the relief efforts and other international personnel.

"In the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 14 October (S/PRST/1994/59) on the situation in Rwanda, the Council encouraged the Secretary-General to pursue consultations as to how the United Nations can assist in the preparation and convening of an international conference to look into the problems of the subregion. The Council believes that the holding of such a conference would be of real value in the context of Burundi.

"The Security Council stands ready to consider further any detailed proposals which the Secretary-General may have. The Security Council will remain actively seized of the matter."

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3444th meeting of the Security Council, on 21 October 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Mozambique", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has been following closely the progress made by the Government of Mozambique and the Resistência Nacional Moçambicana (RENAMO) towards the implementation of the general peace agreement for Mozambique. It commends them and the people of Mozambique for what has been achieved.

"The Security Council believes that the necessary conditions have now been established for the holding of free and fair elections on 27 and 28 October 1994 under effective national and international monitoring. These elections, by providing the Mozambican people with an opportunity fully to exercise their right to vote, hold out the prospect of securing for them lasting peace, stability and democracy.

"The Security Council appeals to all concerned to ensure that the election campaign and the subsequent voting are conducted in a calm and responsible manner; that the elections are held freely and fairly; that those in authority act with complete impartiality in order to avoid any allegation of fraud; and that the election days and their aftermath are characterized by the absence of violence or the threat of violence. It also appeals to all parties to respect the safety and security of the officials of the National Elections Commission and the international election observers and to assist them to carry out their mandate.

"The Security Council reiterates its intention to endorse the results of the elections should the United Nations declare them free and fair, and reminds the parties of their obligation, under the general peace agreement, fully to abide by the results.

"The Security Council trusts that the parties will be guided, after the elections, by the spirit of reconciliation as well as the principles of democracy and the need to work together in harmony to reconstruct their country, thereby enabling the international community to continue to support Mozambique as it pursues rehabilitation and reconstruction.

"The Security Council takes this opportunity to express its appreciation to the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and the personnel of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) and calls upon the parties to continue to cooperate with them to ensure the fulfilment of the ONUMOZ mandate, including verification of their complete demobilization and disarmament."